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|  | **EALING LAWN TENNIS CLUB** **ANNUAL TOURNAMENT 2019****GUIDE TO EVENTS** | Entry now online at <https://ealingtennis.mycourts.co.uk/> |

**INTRODUCTION**

The Club’s Annual Tournament has been running since 1884. Members are encouraged to enter the annual tournament in the events they feel are suitable for them. The tournament culminates in Finals Day which this year is on Saturday 20th July. A summary of these events to help you decide what to enter is;

**OPEN SINGLES EVENTS – MEN’S AND LADIES (from 28th May to 20th July)**

Both the Men’s and Ladies Singles are knockout events with the matches being the best of 3 sets (no tie break in the final set). The Men’s Singles has a compulsory day for the 1st round matches which are scheduled by the tournament committee. This year this is on **Saturday 8th June**. So you should only enter this event if you can make this day, although matches can be played in advance. Some entrants are seeded and all entrants may expect the possibility of playing some of the best players in the club.

**OPEN DOUBLES EVENTS – MEN’S AND LADIES (from 28th May to 20th July)**

Both the Men’s and Ladies Doubles events are knockout events with the matches being the best of 3 sets (no tie break in the final set). Some entrants are seeded and all entrants may expect the possibility of playing some of the best players in the club.

**OPEN MIXED DOUBLES EVENT (from 28th May to 20th July)**

The Open Mixed Doubles events are knockout events with the matches being the best of 3 sets (no tie break in the final set). Players can only enter this OR the Restricted Mixed Doubles event (see details below). Some entrants are seeded and all entrants may expect the possibility of playing some of the best players in the club.

**RESTRICTED MIXED DOUBLES EVENT (from 28th May to 20th July)**

This is also a knockout event with matches being the best of 3 sets (no tie break in the final set). This event is not open to those who have previously won this event, an Open Event at ELTC, an outside Tournament (Open), or who have played in the men’s 1st or 2nd teams or the ladies’ 1st team this season.

**HANDICAP SINGLES EVENTS – MEN’S AND LADIES (from 28th May to 20th July)**

Both the Men’s and Ladies Singles events are knockout events with the matches being the best of 3 sets. Players are given a handicap based on their playing standard. This means that all matches are competitive and gives the chance for a wider mix of members to progress in the tournament and make it to the final if they play to their potential. The Men’s Handicap Singles has a compulsory day for the 1st Round matches. This will be on **Saturday 1st June**, although matches can be played in advance. The event is not suitable for higher team players.

NEW FOR 2019 – SUDDEN DEATH DEUCE, RECIEVERS CHOICE

**HANDICAP DOUBLES EVENTS – MEN’S, LADIES AND MIXED (from 28th May to 20th July)**

The Men’s, Ladies and Mixed Doubles events are knockout events with the matches being the best of 3 sets. Players are given a handicap based on their playing standard. This means that all matches are competitive and gives the chance for a wider mix of members to progress in the tournament and make it to the final if they play to their potential. Higher team players should only consider entering if their partner is not a team player.

NEW FOR 2019 – SUDDEN DEATH DEUCE, RECIEVERS CHOICE in Men’s and Ladies doubles. For Mixed doubles, the server must serve to the same gender player.

**VETERANS SINGLES AND DOUBLES EVENTS – MENS AND LADIES (from 28th May to 20th July)**

The events are open to those whose year of birth is 1968 or earlier. The events are a knockout event with matches over the best of 3 sets with the final set being a champion’s tie break.

**HOW TO ENTER**

All entries are to be made on-line using the Club’s MyCourts system.

**LOG ON TO MYCOURTS**

Go to the website

<https://ealingtennis.mycourts.co.uk/>

You will have been given a logon and password previously. But if you have forgotten it then click on **“Forgotten Password?**” on the left hand side of the screen. Then enter the email address that the club uses to send emails to you and click “**Enter”**. Your logon and password will be emailed to you.

**CHECK YOUR ACCOUNT BALANCE**

In order to enter the tournaments you will need to have sufficient credit on MyCourts to enter as the entry fee will be debited from your account. The entry fees are £5 for singles events and £10 per pair for doubles events. Note that for doubles events only 1 person from the pair needs to enter. This is explained below.

You can see your **“Account Balance”** on the left hand side of the screen.

If you have not got sufficient funds in your account you need to top up by purchasing some credits on line using a debit / credit card. Do this by clicking on “Buy Credit Online” on the left hand side of the screen. Then follow the instructions on the screen to purchase credit. Note: This credit can also be used in future for court bookings and club events.

**ENTERING TOURNAMENT EVENTS**

On the Menu at the top of the screen click on **“Tournaments”** and select “**2019”.** The list of events is now displayed. Select in turn event that you wish to enter and do the following;

**Singles events**

Click on submit and you are now entered – it is that simple and the Tournaments page shows you are registered.

**Doubles events**

Select your partner (if you have one) from the drop down list (if you have one) and submit. You are now both registered.

Note that the person who enters the pair will be responsible for entering the results of your matches onto the system so bear that in mind when choosing a partner.

If you don’t have a partner, don’t worry we can try and match you up with someone in a similar position. You can still enter by submitting without entering a partner. You will be charged the amount for a pair but we will correct this when we find you a partner or refund the full amount if we cannot do so.

Pairs entering the doubles can credit each other for the payment of fees by clicking on “Transfer Credit” and entering the amount and member they wish to be credited.

**PROBLEMS AND REFUNDS**

Members who are having problems with entering the tournament events using the system should email eltctournament@gmail.com It is recommended that those who are less familiar with using the MyCourts system do not leave it close to the deadline to enter.

Any members who have to withdraw before the draw takes place for the event(s) they entered will be fully refunded for the amount paid, so there is no disincentive in entering well before the deadline. Requests for refunds should be sent to eltctournament@gmail.com

**TOURNAMENT RULES**

1. The 2019 tournament will be played on grass, artificial and dome courts. The finals will be scheduled on grass courts on Saturday 20th July. The surface for a particular match prior to the finals will be chosen by mutual agreement of the competitors concerned, or as directed by the Tournament Committee.
2. Entry this year is via the MyCourts booking system and the entry dates and fees are;

 All entries to be submitted by Sunday 19th May at 23:59. Entry fees are listed below

 Singles £5.00 Doubles £10.00 per pair

 An explanation of how to use the MyCourts system to enter the tournament is given in the preceding section. For Doubles events partners will be found, where possible.

 The draw will be displayed on the MyCourts system and the Clubhouse Noticeboard at dates to be notified. Members must look at the draw to see the deadline for the completion of each round. Matches may be played as soon as the draw is displayed.

 Members should try to play all matches as soon as possible to avoid missing deadlines and being scratched. Members who know they will be unable to play in the next round are reminded that it is considered to be more sporting to scratch at match point. If they are unable to make the final it is considered more sporting to scratch by **the quarter final stage** at the latest to allow a strong and meaningful contest at the semifinal stage.

1. Each entrant in the Men’s Handicap Singles and Open Singles **must** be available to play his first match, **even if he has a bye in the first round**, on the compulsory days to avoid being scratched, but matches may be played in advance by arrangement between the competitors.

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| **THE COMPULSORY DAYS** are as follows:- **SATURDAY 1st JUNE** - Men’s Handicap Singles - Play starts at 10.30am **SATURDAY 8th JUNE** - Men’s Open Singles - Play starts at 11.00am**PLEASE ENSURE YOU KNOW THE TIME YOU ARE PLAYING ON THESE DAYS** |

 On these days all matches will be **strictly scheduled**. The playing schedule for each of these Saturdays will be displayed in the MyCourts system and clubhouse by 6.00pm on the preceding Saturday for the handidicap event and on the preceding Sunday for the Open event.

 All other Men’s Handicap Singles and Open Singles matches will be non-scheduled and MUST be played by the deadline dates.

 Any player not appearing within 30 minutes of the scheduled time will be scratched. Similarly any player not appearing within 30 minutes of the arranged time for a non-scheduled match will be scratched.

 **All semi-finals must be played no later than Sunday 14th July**.

(Due to an event on Saturday 20th July that affects a number of Ealing members, the tournament committee may at their discretion allow some handicap finals to be played prior to this date, with the agreement of both players.

All Vets and Open finals will be played on Saturday 20th July, and any players unavailable on Finals Day must scratch at match point in the semi-finals,)

4. On **FINALS DAY** matches will **start at 11.00am**.

5. Where events are not scheduled but must be played by a due date, it is the responsibility of both contestants (or pairs):

 a) to arrange the time and date of the match;

 b) to inform any member of the Tournament Committee if it cannot be played by the due date to enable the Committee to decide which contestant/pair to scratch.

 **It is the responsibility of the winner(s) to enter the result and score IMMEDIATELY on the clubhouse noticeboard and the same day on the MyCourts system.** Any 'walkover' must be agreed and initialled on the Draw Sheet by a member of the Tournament Committee.

6. All events will be run on the knock-out principle.

 All matches will be the best of three sets.

 The standard LTA tie-break will operate in all non-handicap events at 6 games all in the first two sets **only** except for the Vets which will be run on the best of 3 tie-break sets.

 Notes about the handicap rules will be displayed on the notice board.

NEW for 2019 – Handicap Matches will be sudden death deuce scoring. Receiver’s choice except in Handicap Mixed Doubles which will be same gender receiving.

7. Throughout the Tournament priority will be given to Tournament matches; i.e. Tournament players may displace social players on any court which has not been reserved for non-tournament play, except on Wednesday evenings.

 The court reservation arrangements when the Tournament is up to schedule, will be as follows:-

 **NO** courts may be booked in advance.

 **All courts available** - one grass court and two artificial court will be reserved for non-tournament play, except on Wednesday evenings when one grass court and three artificial/tarmac courts will be reserved.

 **Artificial, Tarmac and Dome courts available** - one Dome court will be reserved for non-tournament play, except on Wednesday evenings when two Dome courts will be reserved.

 **Dome courts only available** - no Dome court will be reserved for non-tournament play, except on Wednesday evenings when two Dome courts will be reserved.

 When the Tournament is not up to schedule, or in special circumstances, the Tournament Committee has the right to change these reservation arrangements.

 Members are advised when planning tournament matches on weekday evenings to arrange for the earliest possible time in order to maximise the use of courts and also to avoid Wednesday evenings if possible.

8. The Tournament is **ONLY** open to paid up members of Ealing Lawn Tennis Club; mid-week members who enter are entitled to play tournament matches at weekends. **Members must ensure their contact details are correct; any changes that are needed can be made online on the MyCourts system.**

9. Juniors under the age of 12 on 1st January 2019 are not eligible for the Senior Tournament. Juniors aged 12-15 may enter the Senior Tournament at the discretion of the Tournament Committee. All juniors aged 16-17 are eligible to enter the Senior Tournament.

10. The Tournament Committee is as follows:-

 Sangeeta Arora, Iain Britton, Peter Buck, Janice Coulthard, Korin Harvey, Henrietta Marsh-Smith

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 Any queries concerning the tournament should be directed to eltctournament@gmail.com